

Resourceful OKLAHOMA

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**OKLAHOMA PLANNING AND RESOURCES BOARD
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Tour Called Best Effort To Attract New Industry

The Oklahoma Industrial Tour made in October was "the greatest and the best organized movement ever made to interest industry in Oklahoma," according to Czar D. Langston, Director of the Industrial Division of the Planning and Resources Board.

Langston and John Badger, Planning Board member from Altus, were among the 80 men representing almost every profession and business in large and small communities throughout the state who told the Oklahoma Story throughout the middle west.

Firm Combines Air Conditioner, Heater

Plans to develop a combination heating-air conditioning unit for new houses, or to be installed in houses already built, are being developed by the John Zink Burner Company of Tulsa.

Though such units are manufactured in other cities, the Tulsa model is expected to incorporate numerous improvements. Among these is elimination of the outside water tower by placing the tower in the garage.

The device will combine a five-ton air conditioner with a 150,000 BTU heater for houses with 1,500 or more square feet of floor space. Zink is also working on a three-ton air conditioner and 100,000 to 110,000 BTU heater for houses in the 1,200 square foot class.

Fertilizer Company Plans Enid Branch

The Schrock Fertilizer Service of Congerville, Ill., is planning a branch plant at Enid. The company has leased railroad trackage in that area, and is planning to build storage tanks for its products.

A liquid ammonia fertilizer will be the first to be distributed from Enid, and others will be added later. The Schrock company also deals in phosphate rock and potash, and has distribution points in Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, as well as Illinois.

Langston said over 1,010 prospects were contacted, approximately 400 of whom expressed interest in Oklahoma. Some of the interest was in establishing branch plants, warehouses and sales offices in the state, he reported, while other industrialists were interested in actually moving their headquarters and plants to Oklahoma.

Langston also pointed out that in addition to the prospects contacted, over 350 plant location engineers, bankers, industrial realtors and investors attended the luncheons and learned what Oklahoma has to offer industry.

Some of the factors arousing the interest of the northern industrialists were Oklahoma's strategic market location, availability of economical power throughout the state, low cost fuels (natural gas, coal and petroleum products), educational and recreational facilities, favorable weather and climate, and the state's progressive attitude, as exemplified by tour members.

The Planning Board was active in preparations for the tour, in addition to supplying two participants. Largest single project was the preparation and distribution of an industrial brochure, "Oklahoma — State of Industry", which was mailed to 2000 prospects. The Board also prepared 2000 letters which were signed by the governor and sent to the prospects announcing the tour, had calling cards printed for use by tour members, and took care of layout and placing of ads in newspapers in the cities visited.

Steel Company Opening Branch At Claremore

The Oklahoma Steel Castings Co. of Tulsa is opening a branch plant at Claremore, to be used initially as a testing plant for the manufacture of precision steel castings.

The new plant will employ 30 persons when it is first opened. John B. Fleeger, vice president, said his company has plans for the plant's future which it is not yet at liberty to discuss. The parent plant in Tulsa employs 550 people.

A building to house the new branch is being constructed by Claremore, Inc., with the agreement the Oklahoma Steel Casting Co. will repay the cost in five years or less, at which time it will receive title to the property.

New Unit Operating At Wilcox Refinery

A Universal Oil Products platforming unit added to the Wilcox Oil Co. refinery at Bristow is now getting in full operation, according to Frank H. Dunn, president of the company.

The new unit, which is capable of handling 1,500 barrels of high octane gasoline per day, cost approximately \$1 million.

Capacity of the original refinery is 6,000 barrels per day.

Our Cover

Though the youngster in our cover picture probably hasn't given much thought to harvest and the time of thanksgiving, the bountiful crop he is inspecting seems to meet with full approval. The giant pumpkins and apples, as well as the grapes and corn, were raised in western Oklahoma. Incidentally, so was the young fellow who's looking them over.

Neon Company Supplies Southwest

"Anyone with the initiative to buy equipment and try something new could have done it. I just happen to like working with new ideas."

That's how Burton D. Sponhaltz, owner of the De-Lux Neon Manufacturing Co., explains the development of his business, the only one of its kind in the Southwest.

In 1929 Sponhaltz started a sign-building business in Oklahoma City. Discovering that all neon tube electrodes had to be shipped in from the east, he bought equipment and started accumulating the know-how to make them himself. The new business grew to such proportions that in 1933 he stopped manufacturing signs altogether. In 1935 he added fluorescent tubing to his line—another product made nowhere else in this part of the country.

Tubing, electrodes, and a complete line of hardware and equipment used in erecting the signs are now distributed all over the Southwest, and two new products that grew out of this business, the Memco crane and the Memco aerial ladder, have a nation-wide sale and will be exported as soon as production warrants.

The ladder is the company's newest product. In addition to its use in erecting and repairing signs, it is extremely popular with utility companies and fire departments. A low-priced aluminum ladder with a safe extended length of 53 feet from the ground, it weighs only 875 pounds and can be mounted, with its revolving base, on a small truck. Electrically raised and lowered, it can be put in place by one man in two minutes. In addition to rescue work and laying hose lines it provides small-town fire departments with a water tower within their price range.

The Memco crane, developed in 1949, is also mounted on a revolving base on a small truck, and will lift loads of over 1,000 pounds as high as 46 feet. In addition to this standard model, a larger, 58-foot crane is now available.

Flourescent tubing from the Ok-



THE MEMCO AERIAL LADDER, newest product of the De-Lux Neon Manufacturing Co., is shown in the picture above in use as a water tower. Weighing only 1,000 pounds, it can be safely extended 53 feet in the air. Mounted on a small truck, it revolves a full 360° in either direction.

lahoma City plant is sold all over the Southwest to sign companies that bend it to shape letters and borders, install electrodes in each end, and pump out the air and put in neon gas. Electricity vaporizes a small piece of mercury in the tubing which, with the neon, gives off ultra violet rays. These rays are lengthened as they pass through the fluorescent mixture, giving the various colors.

To coat the interior of the tubes, fluorescent powders mixed in a lacquer-like "vehicle" are forced into them with compressed air. The inside coated with this mixture, the tube is "baked" for seven hours to remove the vehicle and leave only the fluorescent powder.

In addition to the Oklahoma City manufacturing plant, which employs

eight workers, the company has branch stores in Houston and San Antonio, and a plant at Guthrie employing ten people is devoted entirely to the production of the Memco crane.

Cotton Developed To Resist Bad Weather

A new variety of storm-resistant cotton, soon to be available for commercial planting, has been developed at the Oklahoma cotton experiment station near Chickasha.

The new cotton, which matures earlier than any variety now grown commercially in the western part of the state, has fibers tightly packed in the bolls, so that little of it will fall to the ground, even during high winds.

Dedication Held For Cracker At Okmulgee Plant

High point of the observation of Oil Progress Week in Okmulgee was the dedication of the recently completed catalytic cracking unit at the Phillips refinery there, and an open house at the expanded plant.

Improvements will enable the Okmulgee plant, which was about to be closed three years ago because it was losing money, to hold its own in the highly competitive market. Efficiency of operation has been greatly increased.

Principal part of the expansion program was the cat cracker, which consists of conventional feed preparation equipment, vacuum reduction equipment, and fractionation and gas plant steps. Other improvements include a catalytic polymerization plant, installation of three 55,000-barrel floating roof storage tanks, and a completely air conditioned 57 by 85-foot laboratory building.

Capacity for production of gasoline and distillates in the refinery has been increased by more than 50 per cent, while production of heavy oils has remained practically constant.

Pryor Votes Bonds For Future Growth

A \$255,000 bond issue for water and sewer improvements has been voted at Pryor to pave the way for further expansion in that eastern Oklahoma city.

Bond issue was approved by more than five to one.

Rapidly expanding industry which centers around the Grand River Dam Authority power plant near Pryor is causing the city to grow.

The bond issue includes \$185,000 earmarked for extension of water services into new developments of the city.

The city of Haskell was named for Oklahoma's first governor.

Pecan Growers Meeting Slated

An exhibit of machinery used in growing pecans will be a new feature of the annual State Pecan Growers Association meeting and show at Wagoner December 8, 9 and 10, according to an announcement by Gaston Franks, Wagoner county agent.

The machinery show and demonstration, which is attracting manufacturers from all over the nation, will be held the opening day of the meeting, Franks said.

In addition to the machinery show and the regular pecan show and judging, the three-day event will include talks and panel discussions on the various problems pecan growers face.

Visitors will be taken on a tour of Sequoyah State Park, newest of Oklahoma's nine state parks, on the shore of the Fort Gibson reservoir.

Okmulgee is an Indian word, meaning "bubbling water."

Rock Island To Expand El Reno Rail Facilities

A consolidation of southern operations of the Rock Island Railroad with El Reno as headquarters has been announced.

Though there is no official estimate as to the number of persons who will be added to the firm's El Reno payroll by the move, personnel from the Fort Worth, Texas, and Caldwell, Kansas offices will be moved to the Oklahoma city. There are 1,100 on the Rock Island payroll at El Reno at present.

Consolidation will expand the district for which El Reno is headquarters as far south as Galveston, Texas; west to Amarillo, Texas; east to Shawnee; and north to Herington, Kansas. It will make El Reno the repair point for all the line's freight diesels west of the Mississippi, and increase rebuilding of heavy equipment there.



NEW ANGLE—Demonstrating that some photographers will go to any length (or height) for an unusual picture, George Leavens, photographer for Holiday magazine, got the fire department out to help him get a "different" picture of the state capitol building. The picture will accompany a story on Oklahoma as a vacation area which will appear in the national publication, probably in the spring.

Tulsa B-E Day Event Expands

Tulsa's third annual Business Education Day, held October 10, was expanded this year to include 1,700 teachers, who visited 67 business firms and factories.

The event, Tulsa's novel plan for giving teachers a chance to study the inside workings of business and industry, this year included elementary, county and parochial school teachers, bringing the number of participants this year to three times that of last year.

In addition to guided tours of all types of businesses in the Tulsa area, the day will include discussion periods led by top executives of the firm.

Ardmore Industrial Foundation Formed

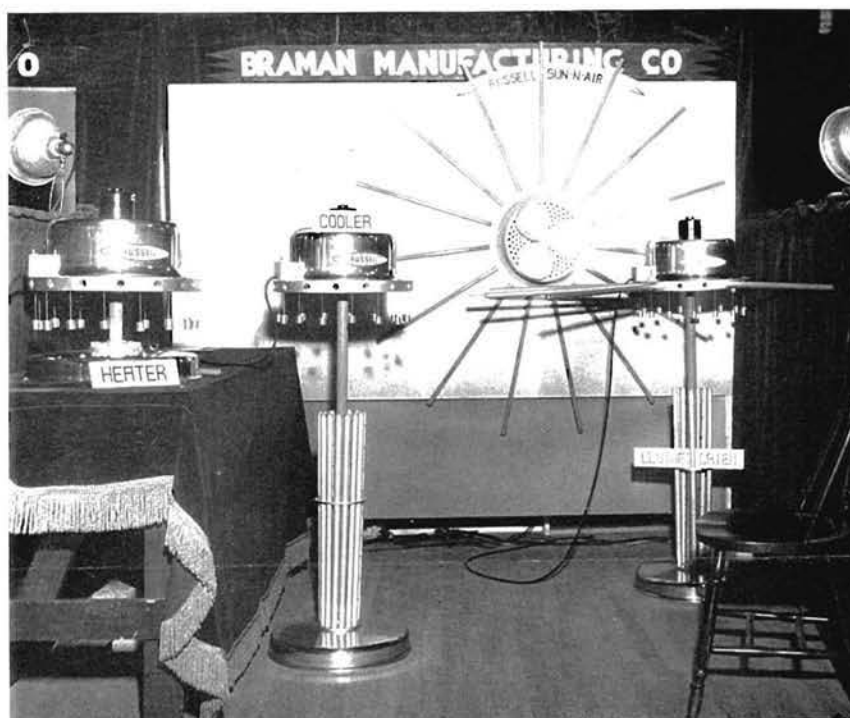
An industrial foundation to help attract new industry to Ardmore has been authorized by the Chamber of Commerce there, and a fund drive has been launched to raise a capital of \$150,000.

The drive got going full swing October 21, and is expected to reach its goal by the end of November. A permanent foundation group will be set up for administrative purposes. The money, which will constitute a backlog to finance industrial improvement efforts, can be used to buy suitable industrial sites, to build a factory building if an industry wants one, or in any other way that will further industrial development. Property so acquired will be rented or sold to industry.

MEMORIAL ERECTED

A memorial marker has been erected by the Ponca City chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution at the site of the original Ponca City watering site.

The marker, made of a gray granite boulder, has a picture of a horse and buggy stopping at the water hole.



VERSATILE NEW DRYER developed and manufactured by the Braman Manufacturing Co., Inc., at Ada is shown assembled for its three different uses. The display pictured above was built for the Ada Industrial Show September 11-13.

Dryer-Heater-Circulator Is Made By Ada Company

A completely new type clothes dryer that can also double as a room cooler or heater is being manufactured at Ada by the Braman Manufacturing Co., Inc.

The Russell Sun-N-Air clothes dryer operates on a principal entirely different from the widely-used spin or tumble dryers. Clothes are hung on removable arms around a central heating unit, and a fan within the unit circulates the warm air through the tubular, perforated arms. Removal of the drying tubes converts the device to a heating unit, and cutting off the heating element while leaving on the fan will make it an air circulator.

The revolutionary new clothes dryer was invented by Russell R. Braman, president and manager of the new company. Other officers are J. C. Smith, vice president, and Lois Braman, wife of the president, secretary-treasurer.

The company is proud of the fact its product is safe for children, weighs less than 30 pounds, and is priced at only \$109.95.

The Sun-N-Air requires no servicing or installation costs, and can be stored in 16 square inches of floor space. It is simple and inexpensive to operate, as well as strong and durable. Complete with short pedestal for heating and cooling and long pedestal for clothes drying, it can be easily dismantled for storage and reassembled for use when the occasion arises.

Braman reports wide interest shown in his product throughout this territory, and as far east as Massachusetts. He expects a large demand for the unit to develop, since its low cost and versatility make it ideal for apartments, basements, back porches, utility rooms, beauty shops, barber shops, dormitories, fraternity houses, etc.

Plastic Oil Storage Tank Developed By Tulsa Firm

A revolutionary new oil storage tank made of glass-reinforced plastic has been developed by a Tulsa firm, the Murdock Tank & Manufacturing Co. An affiliated company, the Plastic Products Corp., has been organized to manufacture the new product.

The plastic tanks, all parts of which are interchangeable with API steel molded lease tanks, weigh just about a fourth as much as the steel tanks, and are much more resistant to all types of corrosion.

They now cost about 25 per cent more than steel tanks of the same size, but F. L. Murdock, president of the two companies, expects costs to drop when full-scale production is launched. Impervious to most of the elements which destroy steel tanks, they deteriorate at the rate of three per cent in fifty years. Color is mixed with the resin from which they are made, eliminating painting and cutting maintenance costs to practically nothing.

Murdock got the idea for plastic tanks from watching a Fiberglas steam hose in operation.

The first plastic bolted lease storage tank for crude oil ever constructed was a 250-gallon tank built on the plant grounds. It is eight feet high and 15 feet in diameter. It is made of ten curved 8 x 5 foot sections, with ten pie-slice sections making up the top and bottom. All sections are an eighth of an inch thick.

Sections are held together by bolts molded into strips of the glass-reinforced plastic. Bolt heads, which face the interior, are completely encased in plastic.

A second tank with a 500 gallon capacity has also been built.

Press and molds to make the tank sections and bolt strips were designed and built at the Tulsa plant. The press is loaded with Fiberglas mat and sprayed with plastic, which is purchased by the barrel, and then submitted to 582,000 pounds pressure.

In addition to the new tank's resistance to such deteriorating influences as hydrogen sulfide gases, salt water and electrolytic action, its light weight and strength, it has

high insulating value, and high impact resistance to temperature extremes.

Though only the two tanks have been made so far, there are a number of orders on file, and inquiries are continuing to pour in, Murdock said.

City Plans Water Supply For Future

A good example of a city that is planning its water supply for future needs is Oklahoma City, where a \$3 million improvement to the city's water treatment plant is adding 25 million gallons to the daily water purification capacity.

The present Lake Hefner plant has a capacity of 15 million gallons of purified water daily, while the Lake Overholser plant has a 24 million gallon capacity.

In addition to the added purification capacity, the new project includes a pre-treatment basin which will handle 60 million gallons of water a day and an underground reservoir for five million gallons of tap water.

Tulsa Man Invents New Putty Scrapes

An electric scraper for removing putty from window glass has been invented and patented by a Tulsan, Cecil R. Russell.

The scraper, which weighs less than five pounds, has two cutters, each two inches wide, which operate simultaneously clockwise and counterclockwise.

Oklahoma Film To Tell World Of Resources

A motion picture in color entitled "Oklahoma and Its Natural Resources" is being produced for national distribution on a free loan basis to civic organizations, business clubs, schools, colleges and other organizations throughout the United States, Governor Johnston Murray has announced.

The new film, Murray said, is being made by the U. S. Bureau of Mines in cooperation with the state government, and is sponsored by the Sinclair Refining Co. It will replace an older film in black and white which has been shown on 15,871 occasions to a total of 1,257,853 persons throughout the nation during the past five years.

When the picture is completed, probably in about six months, prints will be distributed in all sections of the United States, Hawaii and Alaska through the Bureau of Mines and film circulating centers in 39 states. Cost of prints, as well as production costs, will be borne by Sinclair Refining Co. as a public service.

The motion picture, Murray pointed out, "should attract new industry and tourists to our state by making known to people outside Oklahoma the tremendous natural resources of the area and the fine spirit of our citizens."

Murray's announcement followed a conference in the governor's office attended by Morton Harrison, chairman of the Planning and Resources Board, and other state officials, as well as Allan Sherman, Chief of the Office of Minerals Reports, U. S. Bureau of Mines; a representative of the Frederick K. Rockett company, motion picture firm of Hollywood, Calif.; and John F. Conway of the Sinclair Refining Co.

A camera crew of the Rockett organization has been in the state several weeks filming outdoor scenes and other background material.

More Industry Growth Is Seen For Oklahoma

Industry is finding that eastern Oklahoma is an ideal location. France Paris, general manager of the Grand River Dam Authority, told the Oklahoma chapter of the National Society of Civil Engineers at a recent meeting.

Citing the location of two paper mills and the beginning of a \$20 million chemical plant there within the past year, Paris said "Our growth may not be a boom, but it will be a steady growth." Four other major industries are considering locating in the Grand River Dam area, he said.

In a talk entitled "Water and Power for New Industry in Eastern Oklahoma," Paris listed some of the area's industrial attractions. These included abundant water and cheap electric power, supplied by the GRDA in its program of conservation of natural resources and development of low cost electricity.

Also found in abundance in eastern Oklahoma, he pointed out, are limestone and coal. This combination is one of the main drawing cards with chemical plants, with which Paris predicts the area will be especially popular. A midwestern carbide plant is now considering Oklahoma as a location.

Another reason Oklahoma attracts industry, he added, is its central location, which solves shipping problems.

SIGN DIRECTS TOURISTS

A booster sign directing tourists to places of interest in the area has been erected on a highway approaching Talihina by the Lions club and other residents of that city. Among the attractions listed are Talihina and Bohanon Lakes, Kiamichi and Little Rivers, the Indian Trail, Ouachita National Forest, Indian Medical Center, state tuberculosis sanatorium, and the Choctaw Indian Capitol.



PROPOSED LODGE AND CABIN AREA at Carver Memorial Recreation Area is shown in the architect's drawing above. This \$500,000 development will be located on the west shore of the 20,000-acre Fort Gibson Reservoir, across from Sequoyah State Park.

Oklahoma Negro Resort Area First Of Its Kind

The luxurious resort lodge for Negroes, proposed for Sequoyah state park, in the Fort Gibson and Wagoner area, will be another "first" for Oklahoma in her rapidly expanding recreational development.

Morton Harrison, state planning board chairman, said to his knowledge it will be the first state-sponsored project of its kind in the nation.

"We also know that no other state has attempted such elaborate facilities for Negroes where no tax money is involved," he said.

The Oklahoma Planning and Resources board, in charge of the program, has included the \$500,000 Negro lodge in its ambitious \$5 million state park building activity that will be financed by self-liquidating revenue bonds.

The Negro construction, to be known as the Carver Memorial Recreation area, will lie in a beautifully timbered sector on the western shore of the 20,000-acre lake formed by the recently constructed Ft. Gibson dam.

The air-conditioned facilities will accommodate 116 guests, including accommodations in 20 units in eight cabins adjacent to the lodge. The lodge itself will have 26 guest rooms, similar to the Lake Murray construction.

A large dining room will overlook the lake, and nearby will be a swimming pool and boat docks.

Board members have announced the facilities will be completed for opening in April, 1954. Construction work is planned to begin in early 1953.

Duster Is Invented, Produced In Tulsa

A dusting glove with tufted fingers and palm to make it easy to clean venetian blinds, corners and other hard-to-reach places has been invented by a Tulsa woman and is being produced in Tulsa.

Invented by Mrs. Peter Burnett, the glove is being sold throughout the country.

Ardmore Plant Makes Springs

A new industry, only one of its kind in southern Oklahoma is in operation in Ardmore now.

The Ardmore Auto Spring Co., which moved to that city from Lubbock, Texas, in September is the new concern.

The company began operations with a staff of three, but more employees will be added as contracts increase.

In addition to manufacturing auto, truck, bus and trailer springs, the company does re-arching, re-tempering and exchange service. Overload springs are a specialty.

Owner of the company, Harry Pearson, reports that orders have already been received from all parts of southern Oklahoma, and from Texas.



This herd of buffalo grazing near Lawton is typical of the unusual sights in store for visitors to western Oklahoma. The Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, where these buffalo were photographed, has one of the world's largest herds of Texas longhorn cattle, as well as buffalo, antelope, and other animals once plentiful in the west.

Tulsa Industrial District Slated

An industrial development corporation capitalized at \$600,000 is being organized by the Tulsa Chamber of Commerce.

The new organization will be authorized to build up an industrial district at the edge of the city. It will buy a large tract of unimproved land and build streets and railroad spurs and equip it with utilities, after which it will be sold in small units to business and industry.

Project will be financed through loans from two banks, backed by notes signed by civic leaders. Appreciation of the land to be developed is expected to make the venture profitable.

Creeks Participate In Georgia Festival

Creek Indian dancers and craftsmen from Oklahoma participated in a two-day Indian festival at Macon, Ga., in September.

Led by Acee Blue Eagle, one of the best-known Indian artists, the fifty Indians presented their tribal dances on the same sacred grounds on which they were held before the tribe was removed to Oklahoma.

They also presented an archery exhibition, took part in a stick ball game, and gave a demonstration of Indian arts and crafts.

Captain David L. Payne, most famous of the Boomers, is sometimes known as the Father of Oklahoma.

Ft. Cobb Plans Fire Protection

Rural fire prevention is a community project at Fort Cobb.

The Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce there, as well as individual citizens, are cooperating with farmers in the area to buy equipment for fighting both grass and building fires.

Ways and means for obtaining such equipment were discussed at a community meeting there in October. This meeting was attended by Don Stauffer, director of the division of forestry of the Planning and Resources Board.

Farmers and business people in the Fort Cobb area are buying fire pumps which can be carried by individuals to the scene in case of fire.